

Senate, I will relate an incident which occurred that may throw light on Senator Owen's attitude. When he made a speech in this town in July last, he offered to answer any question germane to the subject of his speech that any of the audience wished to ask. One of his auditors asked him this question: "Senator, do you believe that tariff taxation is the best method of raising revenue for the general government?" To this question Senator Owen snapped out an emphatic "No." "What, then, in your judgment, is the best method of raising revenue for the general government?" asked his questioner. The Senator paused a moment and then said: "There was a man sent from God, and his name was Henry George."

DAVID RUSSELL.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of *The Public* for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, October 15, 1912.

Presidential Politics.

Mr. Wilson replied on the 8th at Topeka, Kansas, to Mr. Roosevelt's demand for a retraction of his Colorado statement as to the relation of the Steel trust to Mr. Roosevelt's campaign. On this point he said:

He interpreted my remark to mean that they were supporting him with their money. I was not thinking about money. I do not know whether they are supporting him with their money or not; it does not make any difference. What I meant was that they are supporting him with their thought; and their thought is not our thought. I meant, and I say again, that the kind of control which he proposes is the kind of control the United States Steel Corporation wants.

[See current volume, pages 970, 971.]



The Deneen faction of the Republican Party in Illinois came out against Roosevelt on the 10th. This faction had supported Roosevelt in the Republican convention and had indicated intentions of being neutral during the campaign, thereby leaving the Presidential fight in Illinois a three-cornered one between Taft, Roosevelt and Wilson, and the State fight between Dunne and Deneen. As a majority of the Progressives of Illinois insisted upon a State as well as a national party, as a condition of supporting Roosevelt, the Deneen faction was finally forced to make a choice in national politics. This they did on the 10th at Springfield. Governor Deneen said, as reported by the Chicago Tribune, which has supported Roosevelt in national politics and Deneen in State politics:

There were only thirty-four serious contests in

the Chicago convention, and Col. Roosevelt told me so himself, asking me to modify the resolution which I offered to include only the thirty-four. I did not do so and kept the figure of contests at the number which had been agreed to originally by Gov. Hadley and the Roosevelt managers. Those thirty-four delegates, had they been seated in Col. Roosevelt's favor, would not have changed the result. He would not have been nominated. He protested against the Southern and the Territorial delegates, but to my personal knowledge it was Theodore Roosevelt eight years and four years ago who prevented a change in the system of selecting those delegates, a change for which the Illinois delegation voted solidly. Then Col. Roosevelt demanded that Illinois bolt. I refused to bolt then and I refuse to bolt now. I am for the Republican ticket and it is my judgment, after a month of active campaigning in Illinois, that the Republican nominees will carry the State.

The State organizations and all of the Republican candidates on the State ticket seconded Governor Deneen. He was replied to on the 12th by Mr. Roosevelt who said, as reported by the Chicago Tribune of the 13th:

I have not hitherto assailed Mr. Deneen. Mr. Deneen has now seen fit to assail me by deliberate and willful perversion of the truth. Mr. Deneen says I asked him to limit his resolution concerning the contests to thirty-four of them. This is a falsehood. I had no private dealings with Mr. Deneen during the Chicago convention. During that convention I became convinced of his shuffling and double dealing. I grew to feel a hearty contempt for him and entirely to mistrust his sincerity and loyalty to the people's cause. All the conversations about the contesting delegates were held with literally scores of leaders. . . . Mr. Taft was nominated by twenty-one majority, and the change of thirty-four votes, therefore, would have put him some forty odd in the minority. . . . Mr. Deneen knows this perfectly well and he is trading on the short memories of people when he tries to assert the contrary is true. Mr. Deneen's statement that I was the man who prevented the change in the Southern representation four years ago is an untruth.

Governor Deneen replied to this on the 12th, as reported in the Chicago Tribune of the 13th:

I have not had time to digest it, and am not positive as to what he said. I will state this, however, as an absolute fact, regardless of anything Col. Roosevelt may say: He asked me personally to introduce a resolution at the Chicago convention asking that thirty-four contested delegates from California, Arizona, Texas and Washington be not allowed to vote in the temporary organization. This was after Gov. Hadley had introduced his resolution where the number of contests was named as seventy-two, and after the debate had been had thereon. It was not claimed at any time that Roosevelt had a majority of the delegates in the convention, and had he received these thirty-four delegates, he could not have been nominated. I attended the Republican national conventions of twelve, eight, and four years ago and on each occasion efforts were made to change the unit rules. Roosevelt and his friends prevented the change in rules at each convention. At the last

convention the machinery which he sustained and prolonged, was used against him.

On the 14th the newspapers published a long reply from Governor Deneen in which he gave details in support of his original statement; and in the afternoon of the same day Mr. Roosevelt published a response.



At Harrisburg on the 10th the Republicans and the Progressives of Pennsylvania (the latter called the "Washington Party," because the title "Progressive" has been pre-empted by others in that State) got together and agreed to the substitution of Taft Electors for Roosevelt Electors on the Republican ticket. The Taft faction had organized under the name of the "Lincoln Party" in order to have a Taft Electoral ticket in the field; but when the Roosevelt Electors withdrew from the Republican ticket on the 10th, the "Lincoln Party" withdrew its ticket.



The straw vote of the Chicago Record Herald, reported weekly, had reached a total on the 12th of 154,771. In its issue of the 13th, the Record Herald gave the following percentage results:

	Sept. 29.	Oct. 6.	Oct. 13.
Taft .....	.192	.216	.219
Roosevelt .....	.288	.300	.299
Wilson .....	.448	.429	.421
Debs .....	.072	.055	.061



As he was entering an automobile to ride to a hall in Milwaukee, where he was to speak on the 14th, Mr. Roosevelt was wounded by a pistol shot fired by a lunatic of the name of John Schrank who says he has been following Mr. Roosevelt for weeks in order to kill him. Although the bullet lodged in a dangerous region in Mr. Roosevelt's body his case is not regarded as dangerous. He afterwards spoke at the meeting, and was then brought to a Chicago hospital to have the bullet removed. It is supposed that a bulky manuscript in his breast pocket through which the bullet passed, saved his life. On the person of the assailant were found "proclamations" explaining his motive. One of them stated that President McKinley had told him in a vision to kill Mr. Roosevelt, the dead President saying of Mr. Roosevelt, "This is my murderer; avenge my death." Another declared it to be "the right and duty of every citizen to forcibly remove a third term," as "a traitor to the American cause."



Campaign Funds.

The witnesses before the Senate investigating committee on the 8th were Wayne McVeagh, Ormsby McHarg, Chauncey Depew and William

B. McKinley. Mr. McVeagh explained that the story of a telephonic conversation between Mr. Morgan and President Roosevelt, published by Charles E. Russell, and testified to by Judson Welliver, had been told the latter by him, but not as published. It was not Morgan but Harriman, and not Roosevelt but the late H. McK. Twombly, between whom the conversation had occurred. Said Mr. MacVeagh:

"I may have called on Mr. Morgan on the day I have in mind, but I remember calling on Mr. H. McK. Twombly at his office in the latter part of October, 1904. While we were conversing he was called to the telephone by his clerk. His office is in the same building as Mr. Morgan's, but in the upper stories. When Mr. Twombly returned he told me he had been talking to Mr. E. H. Harriman; that Mr. Harriman had been called to Washington by Col. Roosevelt, and had found the President anxious for the raising of an additional fund for the campaign; that it had resulted in Mr. Harriman agreeing to raise and give Mr. Bliss \$240,000. Mr. Twombly said that Mr. Harriman had called him up and said he expected him to give \$50,000. Mr. Twombly said to me 'Ned' Harriman was going to give \$50,000; that he had been asked to give \$50,000, and he said something that led me to infer that Mr. Morgan would give \$50,000. He said, of course, Mr. Harriman had been acting in the common interest, and that the contributions would have to be made. I recall that he expressed the opinion that the contributions would be practically a waste; that Mr. Roosevelt was sure of his election, but that Mr. Harriman, who had been acting in the common interest, could not be expected to stand the entire contribution. He added that 'of course, there's nothing for me to do but to meet his request'."

Mr. McKinley testified to spending from \$250,000 to \$300,000 in the pre-convention campaign for Taft, being about \$200,000 to \$250,000 more than is usual. He accounted for the fund as having come largely from Mr. Taft's relatives and personal friends. About the expenditure he could tell but little in detail. Mr. McHarg, a supporter of Roosevelt before the nomination of Taft, testified that he knew positively that the Roosevelt pre-convention campaign was not underwritten, and that its managers, of whom he was one, never had money enough, he himself being unable several times to make needed journeys because there was no money to pay his expenses. [See current volume, page 971.]



On the 9th Charles P. Taft, brother of the President, testified that he had advanced \$324,329.30 to defeat Bryan and elect his brother in 1908, receiving back \$150,000; and that in the pre-convention campaign of the present year he had spent for his brother's candidacy \$213,592.41, of which \$125,000 had gone to the national Taft bureau and \$60,000 to the Ohio bureau. Another witness was Dan R. Hanna, son of the late Mark Hanna, who testified to contributing \$177,000 to the pre-con-